Message Text

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42.

ACTION AF-04

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R 071230Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3480

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

CONFIDENTIAL KIGALI 259

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLO, RW

SUBJECT: RWANDAN RECOGNITION PLO

REFS: A) KIGALI 187 B) STATE 76278

1. GOR VIEW - RWANDAN PRES HABYARIMANA AND FONMIN NSEKALIJE RAISED PLO ISSUE WITH AMB DURING RESPECTIVE CALLS MAY 5 AND APRIL 30. RWANDAN COMMENTS WERE DEFENSIVE AND RESPONDED MY PREVIOUS COMMENTS (REFTEL A) AND WHAT THEY TERMED HAD BEEN SIMILAR COMMENTS BY DEPT TO GOR AMB NIZEYIMANA (EMB UNINFORMED). THEIR GENERAL THRUST WAS (A) MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT COULD NOT BE SOLVED WITHOUT HOMELAND FOR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, (BUT ISRAEL EXISTENCE SHOULD BE GUARANTEED -- " JEWS CAN'T BE ETERNAL REFUGEES"), (B) GOR RECOGNITION IN ACCORD OAU RESOLUTIONS AND NOT DIRECTED AGAINSTUS, (C) GOR AWARE PREVIOUS PLO FATAH VIOLATIONS AND WILL ENSURE LOCAL PLO OFFICE STAFFED BY DIPLOMATS "NOT TERRORISTS" AND BE RESTRICTED LEGITIMATE DIPL ACTIVITY, AND (D) GOR PREPARED COOPERATE CLOSELY TO CONFIDENTIAL

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ENSURE US EMB SECURITY. PRES NOTED RWANDA REFUSAL WOULD

HAVE "STUCK OUT" AS PLO OFFICES BEING ESTABLISHED IN BUJUMBURA AND KINSHASA AS WELL AS KAMPALA. WHEN AMB NOTED HIS UNDERSTANDING BURUNDI/ZAIRE POSITIONS MIGHT NOT BE SOLID, PRES RESPONDED TO EFFECT "YOU CAN TAKE IT FROM ME" THAT "THE DECISIONS" ARE TAKEN.

- 2. AMB RESPONSE AMB RESPONDED USG ALSO ACCEPTS INTERESTS PALESTINIAN PEOPLE MUST BE RESOLVED, BUT MAJOR QUESTIONS EXIST ABOUT LOCATION ANY "HOMELAND" AND WHICH PALESTINIANS PLO ACTUALLY REPRESENTS. OPENING PLO OFFICE WOULD ENMESH GOR IN COMPLEX INT'L PROBLEMS. STATUS OF RWANDA AS AFRICAN STATE WITH FRIENDLY ARAB RELATIONS WAS NO GUARANTEE OF PLO BEHAVIOR AS EVIDENCED IN SUDAN. NATURALLY, EMB LOOKED TO GOR TO ASSURE SECURITY AND APPRECIATED OFFER FULL COOPERATION.
- 3. COMMENT- AMB HAS OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS DISCUSSED PLO MATTER WITH SELECTED HANDFULL OTHER GOR OFFICIALS AND IMPLIED GOR HAS OPPORTUNITY AVOID PROBLEMS BY MAKING HASTE SLOWLY ON GRANTING PLO FACILITIES. IT APPEARS PLO HAS MADE NO CONTACT FOLLOWING DEPARTURE LIBYAN DELEGATION IN MARCH. I BELIEVE SEVERAL KEY GOR OFFICIALS FAVOR STALLING ESTABLISHMENT PLO OFFICE UNLESS PRESSED AT PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL. FRITTS

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